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ACTION AIT-02
INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ADS-00 PA-01 AF-10 NEA-06 PM-07
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E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: PINT
SUBJECT: REACTION TO ANDERSON ARTICLE ON CRUISE MISSILE -- PROJECT

1. ON DECEMBER 9 THE UNITED DAILY NEWS (UDN) AND CHINA TIMES (CT) REPORTED THE DETAILS OF JACK ANDERSON'S DECEMBER 8 COLUMN ABOUT ISRAEL, SOUTH AFRICA AND TAIWAN JOINTLY COOPERATING TO PRODUCE CRUISE MISSILES. CT NOTED THAT CCNAA WASHINGTON DID NOT COMMENT ON THE ARTICLE. SPOKESMAN FOR THE TAIWAN MND, MAJOR GENERAL CH'EN KAN-WEI TOLD CT THAT ANDERSON'S REPORT WAS "TOTALLY BASELESS AND FABRICATED." THE FOLLOWING DAY ALL LOCAL PAPERS REPORTED THE MND ISSUED A STATEMENT DENYING TAIWAN IS COOPERATING WITH SOUTH AFRICA AND ISRAEL TO DEVELOP CRUISE MISSILES. THE REPORT SAID QUOTE THE RUMORS (OF CRUISE MISSILE COOPERATION) ARE AS GROUNDLESS AS PREVIOUS REPORTS THAT THE THREE COUNTRIES WERE JOINTLY DEVELOPING NUCLEAR WEAPONS. THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA CONTINUES TO STICK TO THE PRINCIPLE THAT ATOMIC AND NUCLEAR ENERGY SHOULD BE DEVELOPED FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES AND NEVER OTHERWISE, END QUOTE THE STATEMENT ADDED.

2. COMMENT: THE TAIWAN AUTHORITIES ARE HANDLING THE CRUISE MISSILE ISSUE IN A LOW KEY WAY -- MAKING A SIMPLE

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DENIAL OF THE STORY WITH LITTLE COMMENT -- NO DOUBT IN ORDER TO AVOID GIVING SUBSTANCE TO IT. CROSS
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